3rd December 1954] [Sri V. R. Nagarajan]

having to import it from foreign countries at great cost. If the project could be worked successfully, though at some heavy cost in the initial stages, it will bring prosperity to our country. It will help in increasing the supply of electricity and perhaps in running the locomotives.

" The Governor made mention in his Address about Harijans and Backward communities. I feel, Sir, that the amount allotted for this purpose is not at all adequate. This is a problem concerning more than 50 per cent of the population inhabiting our State and probably it is a problem of the masses so to speak. Harijans and Backward classes cannot be made to feel contented with the amount that has been allotted. I only request that this Government may be pleased to allot more and more amounts for this purpose and also approach the Central Government for more subsidies so that the lot of these people may be improved soon."

DEPUTY SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member may continue his speech after lunch. The House will now adjourn and meet again at 3 p.m."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

(After lunch—3 p.m.)

V.—STATEMENT BY THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE ON THE DISTURBANCES IN MADURAI ON 2ND DECEMBER 1954.

MR. SPEAKER :—" The Hon. the Leader of the House will make a statement now on the disturbances in Madurai reports of which have appeared in to-day's newspapers."

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to make the following statement regarding certain incidents that happened in Madurai last night. Though no official reports have been received yet from the local authorities, the Government have with them a radio message received by the Inspector-General of Police, and enquiries have also been made on the telephone. Trouble seems to have arisen over the staging of a drama by M. R. Radha and party. This evoked local opposition among certain sections of the people who appear to have resorted to picketing. The demonstrating crowds became unruly and resorted to violence as a result of which several policemen were injured. It is understood that amongst the injured were one Sergeant, one police sub-inspector, one additional sub-magistrate, 24 city constables and 25 men of the armed reserve. Consequently the mob had to be dispersed by a lathi charge. It is understood that eight persons received serious injuries and have been admitted as in-patients in the hospital. Minor injuries have been sustained by 16 others who also received necessary medical attention.

" Order was soon restored. Pickets have been posted and intensive patrolling by armed police has been arranged. No incidents have occurred since 1 a.m. last night. The city is now quiet.

" At the instance of the police, the City Magistrate has promulgated an order under Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code prohibiting the assembly of crowds and prohibiting also the staging of the drama. The Inspector-General of Police is proceeding to the spot. Government are also instructing a Member of the Board of Revenue to hold an enquiry into this incident and submit a report to the Government."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Now, let us continue the debate on the Governor's Address."

IV.—DISCUSSION ON THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS—*cont.*

* SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, even a hard-hearted critic would have to admit and appreciate the fact that rapid strides have been made in the provision of elementary education and water-supply . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" After the hon. Member has finished his speech, I will call upon hon. Members who have given notice of amendments to move them."

* SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" Schemes for the extension of elementary education and water-supply are being implemented in the rural parts. According to the statement contained in the Address, three crores of rupees are reserved for this purpose and I am sure, that is not an insufficient amount. We hope that with the extension of these two elementary amenities to the people, our State would grow up and develop further strength.

" There is an indication in the Governor's Address about the programme of legislative work to be undertaken during this session, the important among them being the revision of the Court Fees Act, the Agricultural Income-tax on Plantations and the Bill to control Dramatic Performances. Now, I would like to speak a word or two about the Court Fees Bill which is a consolidated Bill relating to the Court-fees and the valuation of suits. This reform has been pending for a long time and it is good that our Government have undertaken to revise the original Act and come forward with a new Bill altogether. I have been fortunate enough to be a Member of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Bill. The Select Committee has concluded its deliberations and its report is going to see the light of day soon in this House. Care has been taken to balance the interests of the litigants and also the interests of the Government. That has been the basis on which we proceeded with the discussion of this Bill. I hope that when it comes up for fuller discussion on the floor of this House, the House will extend its support to that Bill and pass it into an Act.

" In the last portion of the Governor's Address, a reference has been made to the Report of the Taxation Enquiry Commission. That report is pending with the Government of India and